ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Birmingham Baptist Association

HELD WITH

PRATT CITY BAPTIST CHURCH,

PRATT CITY, ALA.,

SEPTEMBER 24, 25 AND 26, 1895

The next Session of the Association will be held with the Dolomite Baptist Church, commencing on Tuesday before the last Sunday in September, 1896, at 10 o'clock a. m.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.:
DISPATCH STATIONERY CO., PRINTERS AND BINDERS.
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OFFICERS.

A. J. WALDROP, Moderator.....East Lake, Ala.
M. M. WOOD, Clerk and Treasurer.....Pratt City, Ala.
S. P. FOWLKES, Corresponding Secretary.....Birmingham, Ala.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

P. T. Hale, J. H. Weatherly and W. S. Eubank.

HOME MISSIONS.

James Hogan, N. B. Williams and G. T. Lee.

STATE MISSIONS.

A. W. McGaha, C. F. Wheelock and J. M. Huey.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.

N. B. Williams, J. H. Eubank and M. T. Branham.

TEMPERANCE.

B. D. Gray, T. V. B. Moor and E. B. Waldrop.

DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION.

B. F. Giles, A. D. Smith and T. J. Dill.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

J. H. Foster, Jr., R. J. Waldrop and J. R. Lloyd.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

J. W. Minor, S. P. Fowlks and W. R. Ivey.

ORPHANS' HOME.

H. H. Brown, W. R. Rockett and W. S. Eubank.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK.

C. F. Wheelock, S. P. Fowlkes and M. T. Branham.

SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE CHURCHES.

W. R. Ivey, A. N. Hawkins and William Ashcraft.

CHURCH IMPROVEMENT.

R. D. Faggard, E. P. Reed and James Hogan.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Ashcraft, William.....East Lake
Barnard, J. E.....East Lake
Branham, M. T.....Mt. Pinson
Browning, W. Y.....East Lake
Compton, H. C.....Springville
Connell, W. H.....East Lake
Craig, L. P.....Bessemer
Dorman, I. W.....Gurley's Creek
Faggard, R. D.....Avondale
Folks, J. D.....Trussville
Foster, J. H., Jr., A. M.....East Lake
Franklin, D. B.....Sandusky
Giles, B. F., A. M.....East Lake
Gray, B. D., D. D.....Birmingham
Hagler, J. H.....Warrior
Hale, P. T., D. D.....Birmingham
Harris, W. W.....Elyton
Hobson, W. A., A. B.....Woodlawn
Hogan, James.....Birmingham
Ivey, W. R.....Bessemer
Kent, J. M.....Bessemer
Lee, W. J.....Adville
Lee, G. T.....East Lake
Lloyd, J. R.....Birmingham
McCord, J. M., B. S.....East Lake
McGaha, A. W., D. D.....East Lake
Newman, W. B.....Compton
O'Hara, J. W.....East Lake
Pool, J. H.....Birmingham
Posey, M. V.....Woodlawn
Reed, E. P.....Springville
Sanford, T. S.....Birmingham
Thames, A. J.....East Lake
Waldrop, A. J.....East Lake
Waldrop, E. B.....Huffman
Waldrop, O. J.....Bessemer
Waldrop, B. M.....Huffman
Whittle, W. A.....East Lake
Wood, M. M.....Pratt City
Wright, M.....Compton
Wyatt, G. S.....Ayers
Walls, F. C.....Mt. Pinson

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Reading of Church Letters.
2. Enrollment of Delegates.
3. Election of Officers.
4. Receiving Churches Applying for Admission.
5. Appoint Special Committees.
6. Receive Correspondence.
7. Return Correspondence.
8. Miscellaneous Business.
9. Report on Foreign Missions.
10. Report on Home Missions.
11. Report on State Missions.
12. Report on Religious Literature and Colportage Work.
13. Report on Education.
14. Miscellaneous Business.
15. Report on Sabbath Schools.
16. Report on Young People's Work.
17. Report on Temperance.
18. Report on Church Improvements.
19. Report on Nominations.
20. Report of Treasurer.
21. Report of Finance Committee.
22. Appoint Standing Committees.
23. Report of Committee on Spiritual Condition of Churches.
24. Report of Executive Committee.
25. Miscellaneous Business.
26. Adjournment.

PROCEEDINGS.

PRATT CITY, ALA., Sept. 24, 1895.

The Birmingham Baptist Association met this day in its sixty-second annual session, in the meeting house of the Baptist Church, at 10 A. M., and was called to order by the former Moderator, Rev. A. J. Waldrop.

After devotional exercises, conducted by the Moderator, letters were received and the names of the delegates enrolled from the churches as follows, viz:

Avondale—Rev. G. T. Lee, Rev. R. D. Faggard and S. B. Ethridge.

Bessemer—Rev. W. R. Ivey, Rev. J. W. O'Hara, O. W. Ward, F. T. Scott and T. P. Waller.

Birmingham, First Church—Rev. B. D. Gray, D. D., Rev. J. R. Lloyd, Rev. N. B. Williams, Rev. J. H. Poole, A. B. Johnston, A. E. Atwater, C. F. Wheelock, Howard L. Lloyd and Lewis Stallworth.

Birmingham, Southside—W. M. Malone, S. P. Fowlkes, E. G. Hagerman, E. P. Hogan, B. T. Caffey, J. C. Johnson and Rev. James Hogan.

Birmingham, Second—Rev. J. F. Savell and A. N. Hawkins.

Birmingham, Third—N. H. Sayers and D. J. Childress.

Canaan—George Colley, W. S. Harrison and J. T. Crotwell.

Central—R. P. Pressley and William Crow.

Coalburg—W. C. Bryant and Robert Smith.

Compton—A. G. Weems and E. D. Reed.

Concord—James Lee and D. M. Connell.

Dolomite—F. R. McDonald, S. G. Robertson, J. L. Thurman and George Collins.

Elyton—Rev. W. W. Harris, W. F. White and T. H. Wildsmith.

Irondale—Thomas Graham and D. A. Williams.

Mount Olive—B. T. Darden.

New Prospect—W. L. C. Vann, T. W. Franklin, W. O. M. Franklin, W. R. Hilliard and George Childs.

Oak Grove—J. B. McCombs, J. A. Jackson and D. C. Smith.

Pleasant Ridge—Rev. O. J. Waldrop.

Pratt City—Rev. M. M. Wood, Rev. D. B. Franklin, Frank Barnard, J. B. Aird, J. W. Minor and William Kamplain.

Ruhama—Rev. A. J. Waldrop, Rev. J. H. Foster, Jr., Rev. J. M. McCord, Rev. William Ashcraft, Rev. J. M. Huey, H. H. Brown and T. V. B. Moor.

Salem—Rev. M. T. Branham, J. H. Hagood and Mat thew Hughes.

Springville—E. P. Reed.

Trussville—D. H. Vann.

Union—R. T. Jones and T. L. Johnson.

Warrior—J. M. Bibb and H. A. Hagler.

Williamsburg—Edward Hicks, William Hicks and A. J. Nichols.

Woodlawn—Rev. W. A. Hobson, J. S. Wood and W. R. Phillips.

The following churches were not represented, viz:

Adger, Bethany, Brookside, Green Springs and Rocky Ridge.

The following churches petitioned for membership and were received, viz:

Blossburg (newly organized)—Delegate, W. D. Barksdale.

Kimball (by letter from the Tuskaloosa Association)—Delegates, J. W. Russell, Joseph Vines, Milo Kimball and Jacob Kimball.

Spring Dale (by letter from the Mineral Springs Association)—Delegates, W. A. Carlisle, J. C. Draper and J. S. Connell.

The election of officers being declared in order, on mo-

tion of A. B. Johnston, the Clerk cast the vote of the Association for Rev. A. J. Waldrop for Moderator, who, in a brief, appropriate and touching speech accepted the position.

The former Clerk and Treasurer, F. M. Wood, being unable to attend the session, Rev. M. M. Wood was unanimously elected by acclamation.

S. P. Fowlkes was re-elected Corresponding Secretary.

Representatives of other bodies were then received as follows, viz.:

Rev. W. B. Crumpton, Corresponding Secretary of the State Board of Missions for Alabama.

Rev. B. D. Gray, D. D., Vice-President of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Rev. J. R. Lloyd, Agent of the Alabama Baptist.

Brother C. C. Crail from the Tuskaloosa Association.

Special Committees were announced by the Moderator as follows, viz.:

On Finance—J. R. Lloyd, W. W. Harris and R. P. Pressley.

On Nominations—W. A. Hobson, B. D. Gray and D. H. Vann.

On Devotional Exercises—The pastor and deacons of Pratt City Church.

The introductory sermon was preached at 11:30 A. M. by A. B. Johnston. Text: 1 Cor. 11: 26—"Till He Come."

On motion of M. M. Wood the hours for meeting and adjournment were fixed as follows, viz.: Meet at 9:30 A. M. and adjourn at 12:15 P. M.; meet at 2:30 P. M. and adjourn at 5 P. M.; meet at 7:30 P. M. and adjourn at 10 P. M.

The Association adjourned to 2:30 P. M.

FIRST DAY—Afternoon.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 2:30 P. M., and after devotional exercises the report of the committee appointed at the last session of the Association, to visit the Mineral Springs Association and ask it to disband and unite with the Birmingham Association, was called for and read by A. B. Johnston, as follows, viz.:

> Your committee to visit Mineral Springs Association, and to invite it to join this Association were unable to attend the meeting of that Association because the sessions of the two associations were so close together in time; but the Chairman requested Bro. J. H. Pool to represent the committee and give the invitation.
>
> The Chairman is informed by Bro. Williams, who was present at the meeting of the Mineral Springs Association, that Bro. Pool extended the invitation, which was referred to a Committee which reported adversely, and that the report was adopted.
>
> A. B. Johnston, Chairman.

On motion the report was adopted.

A. B. Johnston, Chairman of the Executive Committee, informed the Association that he had been reliably informed that Enon and Hopewell churches had joined the Mineral Springs Association without letters of dismission from this body. He moved that a committee be appointed to investigate the report, and report what action should be taken by this Association.

The motion was carried, and the Moderator appointed H. H. Brown, J. H. Foster, Jr., and Wm. Ashcraft said committee.

On motion of M. M. Wood, 9:30 A. M. Wednesday, was set apart for the consideration of the reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions.

On motion of G. T. Lee the hour of 11 A. M. Wednesday, was selected for preaching the Missionary Sermon.

C. F. Wheelock moved to change the Order of Business by making "Report on Young People's Work" the sixteenth item, which was carried.

A. B. Johnston offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to attend to all business, and to meet all emergencies which may arise in the interim between the sessions of the Association.

On motion of W. A. Hobson, the moderator appointed a committee of three, consisting of W. A. Hobson, A. B. Johnston, and Jas. Hogan "to look up the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association, and if they could not be found to prepare a new Constitution and By-Laws, and report to the next session of the Association."

The reports on Religious Literature and Colportage Work, and Education were each called for. Neither of them being present the items were passed for the time being.

On motion of J. H. Foster, Jr., W. A. Hobson was requested to prepare the Report on Education.

The Report on Temperance was called for and submitted by Wm. Ashcraft as follows, viz.:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The word temperance means "moderation; particularly, habitual moderation in regard to the indulgence of the natural appetites and passions."

Temperance in eating and drinking is opposed to gluttony and drunkenness. God esteems temperance so highly that he has promised to those who have this and kindred graces, that "an entrance shall be ministered to them abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."—2 Pet. 1: 6, 11. But those who, instead of having these graces have fallen into their opposite vices, shall never enter into heaven. God says that neither drunkards nor any one living in those vices classed with drunkenness "shall inherit the kingdom of God."—1 Cor. 6: 9, 10. Therefore, every parent in the world should teach his child the principles of temperance, or to exercise "habitual moderation in regard to the indulgence of the natural appetites and passions.

God has prepared something to satisfy fully everyone of our natural appetites, but he requires us to use the right thing in the right way, and in moderation.

By eating or drinking to excess the natural appetite becomes morbid or diseased, and requires more to satisfy. But temperance or moderation, if commenced in time, will regulate this. There are acquired appetites formed by eating and drinking things that God never intended to be used in that

way. Eating opium and morphine, and drinking intoxicating liquors as a beverage, are all prohibited in the word of God as gluttony and drunkenness. All parents should raise up their children in the exercise of temperance, or the habitual moderation of their natural appetites and passions, so that they may be temperate in all things. If this could be done there would be no drunkards, for God says: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." But many children are being raised up without the proper training in these great principles of temperance, and have fallen into the habitual indulgence of their appetites and passions until they are completely under their control. They have lost all will power and have even lost all desire to be free from this bondage to the enemy of their souls. The only way to reach their case is to take out of their reach all means of gratifying these appetites and passions. This can be done only by prohibition.

Some oppose prohibition because, they say it does not allow us to exercise our moral feelings, and thus destroys the moral quality of the action.

This is a mere dodge of the question. If this principle were true, and should ever prevail, it would sap the very foundations of all the prohibitory laws of God and men.

When God speaks we exercise the greatest moral feeling, and show the best moral principle when we do what he commands and refrain from doing what he prohibits. He who said "Thou shalt not kill," "Thou shalt not steal," had the same right to say "Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder." Also, Isa. 5: 11, 12, 22–25. He had the right to say also: "No drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God."

Much good has been accomplished among the rising generation, and those who are not habitual drunkards by teaching the principles of temperance. But much more must be done before the cause can triumph. There must be a great revolution in our State and National Governments. No single State, nor all the States combined have any more right to sell permits, indulgences, or license to make or sell intoxicants than they have to sell permits, etc., to kill, steal, rob, or commit any other crime prohibited in the word of God. For he is "Lord of Lords and King of Kings." "He is a great King above all gods."

Every one engaged in the iniquitous business of making, buying, selling or giving away liquor to make drunkards is as guilty before God of the murder of every one who dies a drunkard from the effects of it, as if he had shot him through the brain with a leaden ball from a rifle gun. And they will all find it so when they stand before the throne of God on the last day. The 120,000 drunkards who die in the United States every year will be charged to their account. Their blood will God require at the hands of those who furnished them with this destroying element. "Woe unto him that

giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him and maketh him drunken also." Hab. 2: 15–17.

The efforts of the people in this country to put down drunkenness, while the strong arm of the government supports it, is like a house in a city on fire. The fire companies, with their steam engines, march up in front of the building, and with all the power of steam dash torrents of water on the burning house until the roof is broken in. But the flames roll on with destructive force until all hopes are gone and the house is given up to the flames. The firemen were curious to know why such masterly efforts availed so little. So falling back to the rear of the building they found a number of engines, with one mammoth engine, with headquarters at Washington, leading the van. These, all with great fury and rage, poured a volume of kerosene oil into the lower part of the house. The mystery was solved.

But let us not be discouraged. Temperance is the cause of God. And God is above the devil.

In this country the law of the land is the will of the people. Let the voice of the people then be heard from Maine to California, revolutionizing our legislatures and the Congress of the United States; so that license to make and to sell liquor will be abolished, and Prohibition forever established. Then let us lift our hearts and voices to God in prayer to help us in this great work until we gain the victory. Then we shall have peace and prosperity, and the "desert shall blossom as the rose."

To God be all the glory.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM ASHCRAFT.

The report was discussed by A. B. Johnston and William Ashcraft, and the hour for adjournment having arrived, the Association adjourned until 7:30 P. M.

The Association met at 7:30 P. M., and the Report on Temperance being still before the body, was further discussed by W. B. Crumpton and C. F. Wheelock.

A. B. Johnston moved to amend the report by striking out the last paragraph, which refers to prohibition.

The amendment was discussed by A. B. Johnson, Wm. Ashcraft, J. R. Lloyd, W. A. Hobson and N. B. Williams.

The motion to amend was lost and the report was adopted as read, A. B. Johnston voting in the negative.

The report on Sunday Schools was called for, and, not being ready, was passed temporarily.

J. R. Lloyd was granted an opportunity to present the claims of the *Alabama Baptist*, and by request, W. B. Crumpton addressed the Association in the interest of the paper.

T. V. B. Moor read the report on Church Improvement, as follows, viz:

We, your committee regret that so few of the churches report on Church Improvement, and those reporting do not specify sufficiently. The following churches report as follows, viz:

Bessemer, $650.00; Birmingham, First, $342.05; Second, $60.00; Southside, $220.90; New Prospect, $2.75; Pratt City, $215.75; Trussville, $169.39; Union, $8.50; Woodlawn, $350.00; total, $2,019.34.

We are confident these figures would have been greatly increased had the facts been given as they should have been.

Respectfully submitted,

T. V. B. Moor.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Orphans' Home reported as follows:

A long felt need has been met in the establishment of a Baptist Orphans' Home in the beautiful city of Evergreen, Ala. A valuable property has been secured, consisting of eighty acres of land and a brick building of ten rooms, at a cost of $5,000.00, divided into three annual payments, with interest on the deferred payments. The last payment, $1,930.00, will be due January 1, 1896, together with a balance of $273.00 from the second payment, which will make the indebtedness of the institution $2,203.00, and it must be paid by the contributions of its friends.

There are thirty-six children in the home, which requires $200.00 per month to provide for them.

These children are under careful control and training. The boys are taught farm work, while the girls are instructed in house work, and all are sent to school.

They have excellent religious instruction in the Home and are regularly at the Sunday school and church.

Rev. J. W. Stewart, the Financial Secretary, upon whom, it seems, God has specially laid this work, reports that he is out of means and is forced to run on a credit.

We recommend that all the churches take collections for this work as soon as practicable.

Respectfully submitted,

Jas. Hogan.

The report was discussed by A. B. Johnson and M. M. Wood, and a collection amounting to $12.27 was taken, after which the report was adopted.

The hour for adjournment having arrived, the Association adjourned until 9:30 A. M. Wednesday.

SECOND DAY—Morning Session.

The Association met at 9:30 A. M.

After devotional exercises, the reports on Missions were called for and read as follows, viz:

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Gratefully we note the progress of our Foreign Mission work. There was never a time when we had better grounds for rejoicing.

The plans of our Board are broad. The enthusiasm of pastors and people seems genuine. The work that is being done is substantial. From the report of the Foreign Board we gather the following statistics:

Contributions for the past year.....$130,000 00
Indebtedness at close of year..... 20,000 00

Chapels have been built at Miglionico, Italy, and at Ogbomoshaw, Africa. Also one at Rio, Brazil, costing $10,000.00, and one at Hwang Hien, China, at a cost of $1,700.00.

W. D. Powel has founded an orphans' home at Taluca, Mexico. This is being supported independent of any help from our Board.

In Papal fields—Mexico, Italy and Brazil—there have been during the year 387 baptisms. The total membership in these fields is 2,083.

In Pagan fields—China, Japan and Africa—191 have been baptized and there is a total of 1,410 members.

It is worthy of note that the 579 Sunbeam Societies have contributed $2,549.23 and that the Woman's Missionary Union has contributed $24,-933.64. We hail with delight the "Young People's Union," which in the future will be among our contributors to denominational work.

We would suggest that all read the *Foreign Mission Journal*, in order that they may be the better acquainted with the needs and the work being done on the foreign fields. When this shall have been accomplished, we will support our Foreign Boards with increased liberality.

J. H. Foster, Jr., Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

To the Birmingnam Association:

Your Committee on Home Missions beg leave to submit the following report, viz:

The Southern Baptist Convention was organized fifty years ago, last May. One object of its organization was to assist weak churches and send Christ's servants into important places where there were no churches, as far as the churches would furnish the means.

The Home Mission Board was appointed and put in charge of this work.

The denomination has grown during this time, in membership, from about 250,000 to 2,748,671.

The Board has contributed largely, in co-operation with the several State organizations, to this growth.

The last year's work, as reported to the Convention, is as follows, viz:

Number of missionaries employed	425
Weeks of labor	11,466
Churches and stations	3,484
Sermons and addresses	46,620
Number baptized	5,921
Number received by letter	6,519
Churches constituted	178
Houses built	52

This work has been done in Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Indian Territory, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Cuba.

The cash receipts for the year were $88,640.20. The per cent. of increase was: In missionaries, 12; in receipts, 20, and in baptisms, 32.

There is still great destitution and urgent need for the Board to enlarge its work. In reference to this destitution, we quote from the Board's last report to the Convention as follows, viz:

"It is estimated that one-half the population of the South, say 10,000,000, are under Baptist influence. Deducting one-fourth of this number as below the age of accountability, and the 2,600,000 church members, leaves about 5,000,000 of unregenerate persons under the influence of our Baptist churches. These we must give the gospel or they will probably never receive it."

The Board greatly needs money, given regularly by praying men and women.

Respectfully submitted,

M. M. Wood.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

[Written at the last moment by the Clerk, and not read to the Association.]

The loosening up of the finances of the country and the healing of the wounds caused by the bitter political campaigns of the last few years presents a prospect of the future decidedly hopeful. Furnaces, storehouses and residences that have for months been occupied by bats and spiders have been cleaned up and are the scenes of busy human activity. This is bound to create—has already created—new demands on the State Board of Missions.

The ministerial students of Howard College did a commendable work in supplying destitute places in this Association and vicinity during the last session of the College, and we may expect still more of the larger number present this session. But this will not free us from the necessity of larger contributions to this department of our mission work.

The work of the past year is summed up by the Secretary, W. B. Crumpton, as follows, viz:

"Number of men employed, 40; days of service, 5,011; miles traveled, 30,461; sermons preached, 2,332; addresses made, 1,132; churches constituted, 1; baptized, 701; received by letter, 305; restored, 42; Sunday schools organized, 43; ladies' missionary societies organized, 10; prayer meetings organized, 101; prayer meetings held, 639; churches visited, 613; subscribers to *Alabama Baptist* secured, 287; to *Foreign Mission Journal*, 129; meeting houses begun, 7; finished, 8; money collected for various purposes, $2,203.87; books and Bibles sold, 1,611; Bibles and Testaments given away, 80. Nineteen young preachers were assisted at Howard College and 6 in the Seminary."

A great work indeed is this. And yet the need for more work is great. The call for help from destitute places is clear, strong, and from every part of our State.

Who can shut up the bowels of his compassion to this cry?

W. B. Crumpton addressed the Association on the subject of missions.

The hour of 11 A. M. having arrived, Dr. B. D. Gray, according to appointment, preached the missionary sermon. Text, Acts 8:4; 13:1-3.

After which, a collection, amounting to $27.50 was taken.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises recommended that "Rev. J. H. Foster, Jr., preach at 7:30 P. M. to-day, and Rev. W. R. Ivey at 11 A. M. Thursday."

The report was adopted and the Association adjourned to 2:30 P. M.

SECOND DAY—Afternoon Session.

The Association re-assembled at 2:30 P. M.

After devotional exercises, Rev. J. R. Hodges, who had recently moved to this State from York, N. Y., was welcomed to a seat on the floor of the Association.

The Reports on Missions, being still before the body, were further discussed by H. H. Brown, J. H. Foster, Jr., J. R. Hodges, W. A. Hobson, W. R. Ivey and M. T. Branham.

M. M. Wood read Acts 1:8, and, by request, J. H. Foster, Jr., led the Association in an earnest prayer for the churches in the Association.

Further consideration of the reports was postponed to the evening session.

On motion, the time for adjournment was extended fifteen minutes.

The committee appointed to investigate the report concerning the conduct of Enon and Hopewell Churches asked that Rev. J. H. Pool, who was present at the time said churches were received into the Mineral Springs Association, give an account of the action, which, by common consent, he did.

The report of the committee was then read as follows, viz:

Your committee beg leave to report:

Whereas, Information of a reliable character has come to this Association that Enon and Hopewell Churches, heretofore members of this body, have applied for and received admission into the membership of the Mineral Springs Association without first obtaining letters of dismission from this Association; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the action of said Enon and Hopewell Churches and the said Mineral Springs Association, as cited in the above preamble, was irregular and inconsistent with good discipline; but, feeling and believing that no wrong or discourtesy was intended by said churches or said Association, we hereby grant to the said Enon and Hopewell Churches letters of dismission from the Birmingham Baptist Association.

H. H. Brown, Chairman.

The report was adopted and the Association adjourned.

SECOND DAY—Evening Session.

The Association re-assembled at 7:30 P. M., and Rev. J. H. Foster, Jr., preached. Text: Psa. 14: 1—"The Fool."

The subject of Missions was further discussed by Rev. N. B. Williams and Dr. B. D. Gray, and the reports were adopted.

The Report on Young People's Work was called for and read by C. F. Wheelock, as follows, viz.:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK.

Your committee in regard to the young people's work would report that, in addition to the societies enumerated in the last report to your body, there have been organized eleven Young People's Unions, making in all thirteen within the bounds of the Association.

The unions all hold regular meetings once every week, and have an aggregate membership of about five hundred.

We would also report the organization of what is called an Associational Union. This is a meeting held once each month at the different churches, and is composed of the several unions within the bounds of the Association.

There is a desire on the part of those interested in this work to extend it so that it shall include all the churches in our Association. To this end we respectfully suggest that this body give the movement whatever of recognition and encouragement you may deem proper. With the encouragement and guidance of this body and the co-operation of the respective churches, your committee feels certain that this movement will become most potent for good, helpful to the churches, and of great value to the cause of our Master.

Respectfully submitted,

C. F. Wheelock, Chairman.

The report was discussed by C. F. Wheelock, M. M. Wood, W. A. Hobson and N. B. Williams, and adopted.

Rev. N. B. Williams offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the Birmingham Association recommend the formation of Young People's Societies in all of our churches.

The Association adjourned to 9:30 A. M. Thursday.

THIRD DAY—Morning Session.

The Association met at 9:30 A. M., and after devotional exercises the Report on Sunday Schools was called for and read by J. W. Minor, as follows, viz.:

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee have not an exhaustive report of the work, the data having been accumulated since the reading of the letters from the churches.

From twenty-seven churches twenty have reported a Sunday School. The average attendance being, approximately, 1,493, with an enrollment of 1895, which is about 50 per cent. of the number of church members, and about 30 per cent. of that number irregular in their attendance.

Reports come up from twenty out of the twenty-seven churches; seven making no report at all of Sunday-school work. Of these twenty schools reported, ten report $346.76 contributed to missions, the other ten not having contributed to that interest.

Your committee has endeavored to ascertain from the superintendents some knowledge of the general condition of the schools by addressing a series of questions to them, to which many of them very kindly and promptly replied.

By consulting the statistics we find the number to be diminished from some of the former years; while that is true a good spiritual condition is reported. While some superintendents have expressed themselves satisfied with the work and results, more have felt that they have not succeeded as they desired, and returned some suggestions along the line of improvement. Some suggest more prayerful attention and faithful effort on the part of the teachers and officers. Others a more systematic plan of work; others recommend the organization of teachers' meetings; and still others the institution of home reading of the reference lessons.

All these suggestions are helpful and indispensable in the work, and more could be suggested. There is one which we know to be in practice, and heartily commend. It is the "daily home readings," either night or morning, in the family, where all the family engage in the reading and then bow and ask God to reveal and seal the truths presented.

Your committee are fearful that the parents of the children in school deliver them over too completely to the teacher and officers, when they themselves could be most profitable instruments in sealing the work of the school on their own precious ones, whose impressions of any character, good or evil, can be most effectually ratified or completely erased by an expression from the parent, whose decisions are law to the child. Therefore, the parent's life should be an exemplary one, that his children might say of him as was said of Moses: "His course was easily followed because of the altars he erected for sacrifice unto God."

After a few years these children will begin to reason out the parent's life when he is gone, and can no longer lead them by the hand, nor direct them. These impressions made on their young minds by them will recur to them as their faculties develop and their minds expand, either to be deepened or eradicated. They will be put to the task of finding their own way; and if the parent's life as a christian has not reached the standard of perfection as they conceive it to be, they may dangerously conclude that if father and mother could not reach that plane of faith and practice, it would be futile for them to try it.

Your committee recommend that all the interests fostered by this body be included in the Sunday-school work. Those interests being the outgrowth and application of bible truth and study, they should be taught to our children by precept and example; and especially do we recommend the teaching and encouragement of Sabbath contributions by the schools, and its purposes and place as a part of worship.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. Minor, Chairman.

The report was discussed by brethren J. W. Minor, A. B. Johnston, W. W. Harris, J. M. McCord, Wm. Ashcraft, C. F. Wheelock, J. H. Foster, Jr., T. V. B. Moor, Rev. L. C. Coulson of the Tennessee River Association, and J. C. Orr of the Mussel Shoals Association, and adopted.

Brethren Coulson and Orr, and Rev. T. F. Hendon, of the Conecuh Association, were received as fraternal messengers from their Associations.

The hour for preaching having arrived, and the Association being pressed for time, the regular order was dispensed with, and the Reports on Education, and Ministerial Education were read by W. A. Hobson, as follows, viz.:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

The importance of denominational education is coequal with the necessity of denominational existence. The Baptists of Alabama have two colleges that hold high rank among the institutions of the land. The Judson Institute, for the education of girls, is located at Marion, Ala., and Howard College, for the education of both boys and girls, at East Lake. These schools are well equipped for the education of our children and are, in every way, worthy of our confidence and support. They are the property of the Baptists of Alabama, and should, if they furnish equal advantages, be patronized by the Baptists of the State. There can be no doubt as to the superior quality

of instruction given at these schools. Their splendid history speaks with sufficient emphasis on this point.

We have no idea of neglecting the education of our children. The question is, where shall we send them? If every Baptist pupil in Alabama who will attend College this opening session would go to the Howard or the Judson, the light of a brighter day would shine upon us.

If we do not support our own schools, to whom shall they look for help? Howard College has special demands upon this Association, since it is located in our midst, and yet its patronage is chiefly from other sections of the State.

The Howard opened last Tuesday with 107 matriculants. The prospects for the Judson, which will open October 1st, are especially good.

We sincerely hope that the time will soon come when the 110,000 Baptists of Alabama will do their whole duty toward their denominational schools.

Respectfully,

W. A. Hobson.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

AN EDUCATED MINISTRY A NECESSITY.

A Chistian minister is in no way extra human. Although a "chosen vessel," he is none the less an "earthen vessel." If education be a necessary factor in the highest success of men of other vocations, it is no less needful for the preacher. If he be a man of ordinary endowments, his only hope of a successful career lies in a good use of the opportunity for education; and if possessed of extraordinary gifts, his usefulness will be all the greater for having made thorough preparation. Even the lamp of genius shines brighter through a polished globe. The real diamond will not long remain in the rough. We are not to despise the day of small things; for "he that soweth sparingly shall also reap sparingly."

The preacher's high and sacred calling does not stilt him above the ordinary means of knowledge. If Timothy would show himself "approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed," he must *study*. Moses in Midian, Israel in the wilderness, the schools of the prophets, and the disciples following the great Teacher, are God's lessons to us on the importance of preparation.

The character of the preacher's environment makes it all the more needful that he should be educated. As a denomination, it would be suicidal to neglect the education of our young preachers. The ministers are the divinely appointed leaders in the church, and the character of their leadership, more than any other human element, will determine the rank and dignity of the church. As Baptists, we have much to be thankful for in our rapidly increasing number of educated ministers and the remarkable growth and development of our denomination; but, with the spirit of education which characterizes all evangelical denominations, how soon we would be left behind if we should neglect the education of our children in the ministry.

The conditions which confront the ministry, without as well as in the church, force upon them the necessity of being well equipped.

Moses was "instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians." A wise general knows the enemy's ground. Many of the evils that threaten the spirit and genius of Christianity are so artfully woven into our religious fabric that even the "very elect" are in danger of being deceived. Our adversary does not always "walk about as a roaring lion." He is often "a wolf in sheep's clothing", or "an angle of light." The old serpent has lost none of his cunning. The enemies of the cross do not fight with dull weapons. If these subtle evils are to be eradicated, these crafty foes overcome, and the kingdoms of this world made the kingdom of our God and His Christ, the Christian ministry must have acuteness of intellect as well as piety of heart; they must be men of brain power as well as heart power. Power without wisdom is Sampson with his head in Delilah's lap. Courage without power is Sampson "shaking" himself when shorn of his locks. An education whose end is ornament is the giant's curls on another's head, but that education which is both of the head and heart is Sampson wearing his own locks. Intellectual power and spiritual power combined can move the pillars under sin's grandest temple and bring its walls on the heads of its worshippers. Wherefore brethren, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."

The character of the preacher's work emphasizes the necessity of his education. What calling is more worthy the best there is in a man than the gospel ministry? "He that desireth the office of a bishop desireth a good work." Should he who teaches the science of this life be educated? Much more he who is to teach the science of eternal life. If he should be skilled who is to give relief to the body, should he have less skill who is to "bind up the broken hearted?"

Think of tho scope of the preacher's work. His message is one of universal interest. Christianity was instituted to touch and uplift human life at every point. It extends a beneficent hand to the individual, the family, society, the nation. Our Lord not only taught in the temple, but "went about doing good." The pastor of a church is bishop, elder, preacher and shepherd. "Who is sufficient for these thtngs?" If Paul, with a mind trained by Gamaliel and illuminated by the Holy Ghost, shrunk from the responsibility of so high a calling, shall we content ourselves with anything less than the best preparation within our reach?

THE ADVANTAGES OFFERED FOR MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

The time was when the ministry of this country were compelled to do the best they could with little or no school training. God bless the pioneer preachers! Many of their names, like the seventy, were never written save in heaven's register. But that day is past. With Howard College at East Lake and the Seminary at Louisville, no young man who is called of God to preach the gospel need go to work with a dull axe. Howard College says,

come, and a hundred thousand Baptists say, go. The Seminary says, come, and the Baptists of the South say, go. If you are able to pay your own expenses, in whole or in part, you should do so; but if you are not, the door will not be shut in your face. During the past session there were twenty-three young ministers in the Howard and eight in the Seminary. We ought to have many more at both schools. The Howard will probably have not less than thirty-five ministerial students this session. There were thirty present at the opening. This is indeed gratifying.

The Seminary is calling for more men from Alabama. Georgia and Mississippi have more than doubled their number within the last ten years, while Alabama has made little or no advance.

We are grieved over the recent death of Dr. John A. Broadus, the beloved President of the Seminary, but, as was in keeping with his wise management, he had, for years before his death, been directing things with a view to his departure; hence the work moves on without any serious break. Dr. W. H. Whitsett, who was elected President at the Convention last May, is much beloved by the denomination and no man is better fitted to follow Dr. Broadus than he.

The amount paid by Alabama for ministerial education during the last Conventional year was $1,936.81. No feature of our denominational work is nearer the hearts of our people than the education of our young preachers.

Respectfully,

W. A. Hobson.

The reports were discussed by brethren W. B. Crumpton, M. M. Wood and Jas. Hogan, and adopted.

On motion the hour for adjournment was extended indefinitely.

The Report on Religious Literature and Colportage Work was called for and read by H. H. Brown, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.

During the year ending July 1, 1895, the State Board of Missions employed 13 Missionary Colporteurs, who did colportage work in connection with their regular missionary work. They sold 994 religious books and 614 bibles and testaments, donated 80 bibles and testaments and 23,566 pages of tracts, and found 80 families destitute of the bible.

The committee believe that there should be more colportage work done within the bounds of this Association.

There are many families in our communities without the bible or any other religious literature to read.

No time should be lost in supplying the destitute with the word of God

and with other religious books and tracts. Some of our churches and railroad towns are in need of attention on this subject, and they could be reached with very little expense.

It has been suggested to the committee by a brother who has experience in the colportage work, that the best plan is to handle a line of low priced, good religious books, and deal largely in a like kind of tracts, and have a colporteur who can stir the people up to their duty. We do not think the work can be made self-sustaining for a while yet; but with a reasonable amount of money to give the work a good start it might be soon made to support itself.

The committee urge upon the churches the importance of making liberal contributions for the colportage work.

Your committee would urge also the importance of our membership subscribing for and reading the Alabama *Baptist* and the Birmingham *Baptist*. These papers are published generally in the interests of the cause of the Master, and especially in the interests of the Baptist churches of Alabama and of the Birmingham Association.

H. H. Brown, Acting Chairman.

The report was adopted without discussion.

The Report of the Committee on Finance was called for and read by J. R. Lloyd, as follows, viz.:

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to report that we have received:

For State Missions	$ 31 06
For Home Missions	30 77
For Foreign Missions	41 99
For Orphans' Home	15 12
For Ministerial Education	13 25
For Bible and Colportage	50
For Minutes	59 83
Total	$192 52

The above amounts have been turned over to the Treasurer, and his receipt attached as a part of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. Lloyd, Chairman.

The report was adopted.

The report of the Treasurer was called for and read as follows, viz.:

Received from Finance Committee at last Association	$153 13
Received from former Treasurer	2 23
Received from Woodlawn Church for Missions	27 20
Total	$182 56

CREDITS.

By cash paid W. B. Crumpton	$ 87 70
By cash paid Baptist S. S. Board	23 30
By cash paid Orphans' Home	18 85
By cash paid for Minutes	50 43
By cash on hand	2 28
Total	$182 56

Respectfully submitted,

F. M. Wood, Treasurer.

The report was adopted.

On motion of C. F. Wheelock the Committee on Nominations was instructed to nominate the Executive Committee.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

Foreign Missions—P. T. Hale, J. H. Weatherly and W. S. Eubank.

Home Missions—James Hogan, N. B. Williams, G. T. Lee.

State Missions—A. W. McGaha, C. F. Wheelock, and J. M. Huey.

Religious Literature and Colportage Work—N. B. Williams, J. H. Eubank and M. T. Branham.

Temperance—B. D. Gray, T. V. B. Moor, and E. B. Waldrop.

Denominational Education—B. F. Giles, A. D. Smith, and T. J. Dill.

Ministerial Education—J. H. Foster, Jr., R. J. Waldrop, and J. R. Lloyd.

Sunday Schools—J. W. Minor, S. P. Fowlks, and W. R. Ivey.

Orphans' Home—H. H. Brown, W. R. Rockett, and W. S. Eubank.

Young People's Work—C. F. Wheelock, S. P. Fowlks, and M. T. Branham.

Spiritual Condition of the Churches—W. R. Ivey, A. N. Hawkins, and Wm. Ashcraft.

Church Improvement—R. D. Faggard, E. P. Reed, and Jas. Hogan.

On motion adjourned to meet at 2 P. M.

THIRD DAY—Afternoon Session.

After devotional exercises the Report on the Spiritual Condition of the Churches was submitted by J. R. Lloyd as follows, viz.:

REPORT ON SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE CHURCHES.

Your committee feel, that while the spiritual condition of the churches is by no means what it should be, yet there are evidences of improvement, for which we are grateful.

There has been during the year no great spiritual awakening all along the line—a consummation so much to be desired, and for which we should pray very earnestly; but God has graciously blessed some of the churches with precious revivals.

One of the most hopeful signs apparent is the increased liberality of the churches, as shown by the larger contributions to our mission work, and especially by the fact that a larger number of churches are coming to the front as regular and systematic contributors to the Lord's treasury.

Your committee thinks that a brighter day is dawning on our Zion; and that, as an Association, we should take courage and press forward, assured that God will hear the cry of his people, and richly reward continuous, faithful effort.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. Lloyd.

The report was adopted.

The Executive Committee submitted a Report of the Ministers' and Layman's Institute, as follows, viz.:

REPORT OF MINISTERS' AND LAYMAN'S INSTITUTE.

In the past year we have held three meetings, one at Green Springs, one at Elyton, and one at Dolomite.

The one at Dolomite is the only satisfactory one. At Green Springs the weather was bad and the attendance small. At Elyton speakers were abundant, hearers few. At Dolomite we had a good meeting, but the meetings have failed so far to accomplish the purpose designed, and I recommend their discontinuance.

Respectfully submitted,

A. B. Johnston, Chairman.

The report was discussed by A. B. Johnston, C. F. Wheelock, W. W. Harris, J. H. Poole, J. R. Lloyd, and T. V. B. Moor; and on motion of W. A. Hobson the question of continuing the meetings was referred to Executive Committee for action.

The Annual Report of the Executive Committee was next read by the Chairman, as follows, viz.:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your Executive Committee beg to report that, as shown by the letters, we have come, this year, nearer than we did last year to raising the amount apportioned to the various churches, the apportionment being $2,500 for missions, while the amount reported as raised is $2,198.64. In addition to which there has been contributed by the churches $382.42 for Ministerial Education, and $270.90 for the Orphan's Home. Some of the churches have contributed nothing, others very small amounts, while with others there has been a marked increase over previous contributions. The banner churches in our Association this year are in the order named: Pratt City, Bessemer, Birmingham, Second, and Dolomite, each of these having exceeded the apportionment.

Nothing has been effected by the effort to secure a uniform fiscal year, it would seem hopeless and had as well be dropped.

By request of your committee Bro. Glenn was appointed to this field, for a larger portion of his time than in the previous year. We regret to state that owing to ill health, Bro. Glenn was only able to work a part of the time and that he has now resigned his position as missionary. He is a good man, has done good work in harmony with your committee and we regret to part with him; he reports work as follows: Bro. Glenn worked from January 1st to June 30th, a part of the time, making four and one-half months. Traveled 875 miles, preached 28 times, made 9 addresses, addressed 8 sunday schools, organized 3 prayer meetings, held 5 prayer meetings, visited 3 churches without pastors, made 40 visits, organized 2 sunday schools, visited 9 churches with pastors, distributed 500 tracts, collected for missions, $14.44; Expenses for travel, $19.35

The Students at Howard College have been commendably active and useful this year, and your committee gladly expresses the conviction that these young Brethren will prove a great blessing to our Association. Seventeen students report having preached at twenty-two different places, a total of 160 times, their expenses have been paid. and we doubt not, good done.

The needs of our field are great, our shifting population, the increase of mining interests, the number of foreigners coming into this district, together with the unsatisfactory condition of some of the other churches, require that we put forth every effort to hold and improve what we have and to extend our influence for good, to this end in addition to what can be done by our local forces and the students. Your committee recommend that the State Board be requested to appoint a missionary to succeed Bro. Glenn in working in our bounds under the direction of this committee.

Your committee has expended since its last report in printing, stationery and postage $6.16, leaving on hand $4.85.

We attach the report of apportionment for the ensuing year.

Respectfully,

A. B. Johnston, Chairman.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Nominations reported as follows, viz.:

Place of meeting: Dolomite.

Time: 10 A. M. Tuesday before the last Sunday in September, 1896.

Introductory Sermon by Rev. M. M. Wood; alternate, Rev. J. H. Foster, Jr. The sermon to be preached immediately after the organization.

To preach the Missionary Sermon: Rev. W. R. Ivey; alternate, Rev. N. B. Williams.

Delegate to Southern Baptist Convention: J. H. Eubank; alternate, H. H. Brown.

Executive Committee: A. B. Johnston, P. T. Hale, J. H. Foster, Jr., E. H. Cabaniss, Jas. Hogan, W. R. Ivey, Dr. S. R. Caffee, C. F. Wheelock, J. B. Gibson, H. H. Brown and J. W. Minor.

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. HOBSON,
B. D. GRAY,
D. H. VANN.

J. R. Lloyd moved to amend the report by striking out the names of E. H. Cabaniss, W. R. Ivey, S. R. Caffee, J. B. Gibson, and H. H. Brown.

It was moved to amend the amendment by adding the name of B. D. Gray and retaining all, which prevailed, and the report as amended was adopted.

Rev. J. H. Foster offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the delegates and visitors to this Association return thanks to the people of Pratt City for their unbounded hospitality since we have been in their midst.

On motion of Dr. B. D. Gray the Clerk and Treasurer was allowed twenty dollars for his services, and was ordered to pay to the Executive Committee all money in his hands after paying for the printing of the Minutes.

The body joined in singing "How Firm a Foundation," extended the parting hand, and after being led in prayer by B. D. Gray, adjourned to meet with the Dolomite Church at 10 o'clock Tuesday before the last Sunday in September, 1896.

M. M. WOOD, *Clerk.*

A. J. WALDROP, *Moderator.*

REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S MEETING.

The fifth anniversary of the Birmingham Woman's Missionary Union was held Thursday, September 26th, in the Methodist Church of Pratt City, through the Christian courtesy of the brethren of that denomination. The Vice-President, Mrs. L. F. Stratton, occupied the chair.

Mrs. W. W. Harris read the fourth chapter of John, and offered prayer. She emphasized the missionary spirit of the Woman of Samaria, and was followed by an earnest prayer by Mrs Hodges.

Mrs. Stratton read a concise statement of the year's progress, which, in spite of "hard times" has been gratifying. She paid a glowing tribute to Mrs. T. A. Hamilton for five years the President of the Alabama Central Committee, whose loss, by removal to Georgia, is so deeply deplored. She spoke tenderly of the still sadder removal by death. of Mrs. A. J. Waldrop, whose zeal and consecration, energy and efficiency placed her at the very head and front of woman's work.

REPORT OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

Birmingham First Church	$ 425 94
Sunbeams Birmingham First Church	189 00
Sunbeams Second Church	59 25
Helping Hand Second Church	52 80
South Side Ladies Circle	372 75
South Side Pasto'r Aid	252 49
South Side Renfroe Sunbeams	245 20
Woodlawn L. A. S	292 41
Elyton L. A. S	51 45
East Lake L. A. S	286 00
Mt. Pinson L. A. S	30 10
Bessemer L. A. S	122 70
Pratt City L. A. S	151 00
Total	$2530 89

Several societies were not represented on account of sickness. Nine Young Peoples' societies were reported; yet only three sent statements of funds contributed. Had all the societies reported the result would show a heavy gain over last year.

Miss Knapp, missionary among colored women under a Northern Board, made an interesting statement of her work, showing excellent results.

Mrs. W. W. Harris moved that the Chair appoint a committee to express the deep sense of bereavement felt by the Union in the death of the lamented Mrs. A. J. Waldrop. Mrs. Stratton appointed Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Gray, who submitted the following, viz:—

MRS. A. J. WALDROP.

Not alone the Woman's Missionary Union, but every form of Christian activity, has experienced a heavy loss in the death of Mrs. A. J. Waldrop, who ceased from her labors, September 5th. Missionaries, widows and orphans, the needy, the suffering, the sinful, received her ready sympathy and help, and, with her children, rise up and call her blessed. Her hand was open as day to meeting charity.

With a constitution so frail and delicate that she might well have been excused from labor, she put to the blush many sturdier a frame.

Her unwearied efforts in every good word and work, her consecrated life, the candor and earnestness of her character, have been our inspiration, and are now among our sweetest memories.

A summons to dinner caused an adjournment to the town hall, where the large crowd was served with a dinner, surpassing even the proverbial associational dinner.

In the afternoon session Mrs. B. D. Gray spoke of Frontier Missionaries, the great work they were doing, and the good we could do by sending them boxes.

Her words were so effective that seven boxes were quickly promised.

Miss McKenzie of Pratt City, read a bright and interesting essay: What owe I to my Lord?

Mrs. I. C. Brown spoke on our duty to Foreign Msssions, and our obligations to sustain *our own* Missionary in Tung Chow, China—Miss Anna B. Hartwell.

A resolutison of thanks to our Methodist Brethren for the use of their church, and to the citizens for generous hospitality, closed this most successful anniversary of the Birmingham Woman's Missionary Union.

Mrs. I. C. Brown, Secre'ary.

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.

CHURCH	Missions	Education	Orphans Home
Adger	$ 5 00	$ 2 50	$ 1 50
Avondale	25 00	20 00	15 00
Bessemer	200 00	35 00	20 00
Birmingham, 1st	700 00	125 00	125 00
Birmingham, 2d	60 00	10 00	5 00
Birmingham, 3d	20 00	6 00	4 00
Birmingham, South Side	700 00	125 00	125 00
Canaan	20 00	10 00	5 00
Central	20 00	10 00	5 00
Concord	15 00	5 00	2 50
Dolomite	60 00	15 00	10 00
Elyton	60 00	20 00	10 00
Green Springs	10 00	5 00	2 50
Johns	5 00	2 50	1 00
Mt. Olive	10 00	5 00	2 00
New Prospect	50 00	10 00	5 00
Oak Grove	20 00	10 00	5 00
Pratt City	300 00	25 00	50 00
Pleasant Ridge	25 00	10 00	5 00
Ruhama	500 00	100 00	50 00
Salem	25 00	10 00	5 00
Springville	40 00	10 00	5 00
Trussville	58 00	18 00	12 00
Irondale	25 00	10 00	5 00
Union	20 00	5 00	2 50
Warrior	70 00	20 00	15 00
Williamsburgh	10 00	5 00	2 00
Woodlawn	150 00	36 00	25 00
Brookside	10 00	3 00	2 00
Coalburg	20 00	5 00	2 50
Compton	10 00	4 00	1 00
Rocky Ridge	20 00	6 00	4 00
Blossburg	10 00	5 00	2 50
Belleview	10 00	5 00	2 50
Springdale	10 00	5 00	2 50

STATISTICS BIRMINGHAM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1895.

CHURCH	COUNTY	PASTOR	CLERK	CLERK'S POST OFFICE	Membership Last Reported	Increase by				Decreased by				Present Membership	SUNDAY SCHOOL				Preaching Sabbaths	Reports Prayer Meeting	Reports Revival
						Baptism	Letter	Voucher	Restoration	Letter	Exclusion	Erasure	Death		Officers and Teachers	Pupils	Superintendent's Name	Post Office Address			
Avondale	Jefferson				151	1	12	...	2	4	20	.....	1	141	12	67	Gilbert Carter	Avondale	Every ...	Yes ...	Yes ...
Bessemer	"	W. R. Ivey	T. P. Waller	Bessemer	233	6	18	1	...	10	2	...	2	244	12	109	O. W. Ward	Bessemer	Every ...	Yes ...	Yes . .
Birmingham, 1st	"	B. D. Gray	J. F. Graham	Birmingham	523	22	35	5	1	89	...	.....	3	503	17	250			Every ...	Yes ...	Yes ...
Birmingham, S. Side	"	P. T. Hale	J. A. Stratton	Birmingham	544	75	59	3	...	39	...	.....	6	636	24	282	S. P. Fowlkes	Birmingham.	Every ...	Yes ...	Yes ...
Birmingham, 2d	"		D. L. Baker	North Birmingham.	85	5	5	...	...	13	3	.....	1	78	7	64	D. L. Baker	North B'ham.	Every ...	Yes ...	Yes ...
Birmingham, 3d	"	James Hogan	A. A. Hogan	Birmingham	42	.....	1	...	1	3	...	.....	1	40	5	40	A. A. Hogan	Birmingham.	.....	.....	.....
Blossburg	"	J. W. O'Hara	W. D. Barksdale	Blossburg	.....	16	16	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	32	.....	.....			3d	Yes ...	Yes ...
Canaan	"	L. P. Craig	W. S. Harrison	Morgan	62	6	2	...	2	.....	2	.....	...	70	5	40	W. S. Harrison	Morgan.	4th	Yes ...	Yes ...
Central	"	J. W. Lawley	R. M. Inzer	Argo	117	4	4	...	...	8	8	15	1	93	.....	.....			.....	.....	.....
Coalburg	"	J. H. Longcrier	L. R. Shiflitt	Coalburg	43	.....	.....	...	...	.....	...	13	...	30	.....	40	W. C. Bryant	Coalburg	1st & 3d	.....	.....
Compton	Blount				26	.....	8	...	...	.....	2	.....	...	32	4	30			.....	Yes ...	.....
Concord	Jefferson	W. J. Lee	J. A. Baker	Sandusky	25	2	.....	...	...	2	2	.....	...	23	.....	.....			2d	.....	.....
Dolomite	"	W. W. Harris	L. C. Meigs	Dolomite	82	5	7	...	...	4	1	.....	2	85	.....	64	J. L. Thurman	Dolomite	4th	Yes ...	.....
Elyton	"	W. W. Harris	M. P. Lewis	Birmingham	100	3	3	...	...	6	3	15	2	80	6	84	M. P. Lewis	Birmingham.	1st, 2d, 3d	Yes ...	.....
Irondale	"	W. Y. Browning	W. J. Cardwell	Irondale	59	8	3	...	...	2	1	.....	1	66	.....	.....			3d	.....	.....
Kimball	"	A. A. Hutto	J. W. Russell		.....	.....	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	51	7	44	J. K. Pemberton	Kimbrel	4th	.....	.....
Mt. Olive	"		B. T. Darden	Clay	42	1	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	43	.....	.....			.....	.....	.....
New Prospect	"		E. P. Reed	Stubbs	112	1	.....	...	...	24	...	.....	1	88	7	80	W. O. M. Franklin	Stubbs	4th	.....	.....
Oak Grove	"	M. T. Branham	J. B. McCombs	Mt. Pinson	82	9	.....	...	...	2	1	.....	2	86	.....	.....			4th	.....	.....
Pleasant Ridge	"	E. B. Waldrop	S. H. Huey	Bessemer	58	15	1	...	...	1	...	.....	1	72	6	50	B. B. Waldrop	Bessemer	1st	.....	Yes ...
Pratt City	"	M. M. Wood	Pat. Felton	Pratt City	181	14	25	...	...	15	1	.....	3	202	16	155	J. W. Minor	Thomas	Every ...	Yes ...	Yes ...
Ruhama	"	J. H. Foster, Jr	H. F. Wood	East Lake	400	17	32	...	...	33	2	.....	4	410	17	165	R. J. Waldrop	East Lake	Every ...	Yes ...	Yes ...
Salem	"	M. T. Branham	J. E. Massey	Mt. Pinson	95	5	.....	...	...	15	...	16	...	69	5	40	W. J. Keith	Mt. Pinson	3d	.....	.....
Springdale	"	M. T. Branham	J. C. Draper		.....	.....	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	56	.....	40	P. M. Draper	Birmingham.	.....	.....	.....
Springville	St. Clair	C. S. Johnson	J. B. Herring	Springville	96	.....	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	96	6	50	E. P. Reed	Springville	4th	.....	.....
Trussville	Jefferson	A. W. McGaha	D. H. Vann	Stubbs	116	12	.....	...	1	22	...	.....	2	105	12	70	R. H. Hendon	Trussville . .	1st & 3d	.....	Yes ...
Union	"	J. D. Martin	R. T. Jones	Turpin	39	1	8	...	...	3	1	.....	1	43	4	25	R. T. Jones	Turpin	1st	.....	Yes ...
Warrior	"	J. A. May	H. A. Hagler	Warrior	140	13	5	...	2	34	9	24	3	90	8	100	C. G. Anderson	Warrior	2d & 4th	Yes ...	Yes ...
Williamsburg	"	W. H. Connell	Wm. Hicks	Porter	19	4	6	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	29	6	30	A. W. Nichols	Porter	2d	.....	.....
Woodlawn	"	W. A. Hobson	F. M. Wood	Woodlawn	248	6	20	...	...	11	...	.....	1	262	19	172	J. B. Gibson	Woodlawn	Every ...	Yes ...	Yes ...
Rocky Ridge	"		C. A. Franklin	Irondale..	48	.....	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	48	.....	.....			.....	.....	.....
TOTAL					3768	259	271	9	9	331	58	83	38	3903	205	2091					

Names of Churches organized during the year: Blossburg.

Names of Churches received from other Associations: Springdale Church, from Mineral Springs Association; Bellview Church, from Tuscaloosa Association.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF BIRMINGHAM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES	MISSIONS			Orphans' Home at Evergreen, Ala.	Indigent Ministers	Bible and Colportage	EDUCATION			WOMEN'S SOCIETY				TOTAL	Sunday School. — Reported Under Proper Column	HOME EXPENSES.					GRAND TOTAL	VALUE OF BUILDINGS AND FURNITURE
	State	Home	Foreign				Ministerial	College Buildings	Incidental	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	State Missions	Reported Under Proper Column.			Sunday School Expenses	Pastor's Salary	Repairs, Fuel, the Poor, etc.	Minutes	Total		
*Adger	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
Avondale	2 00	1 50	1 50	26 10			2 67							33 77	40 52	46 29	550 76	179 80	1 50	778 35	812 12	4,000 00
Bessemer	53 33	55 20	32 51				36 68			47 05	6 25		77 10	231 02	37 01	56 54	783 78	909 60	2 50	1,752 42	1,983 44	6,600 00
†Bethany																						
Birmingham, 1st	137 37	218 82	160 75	88 66			110 00			168 18	49 00		12 00	932 78	74 38	234 15	2,400 00	1,880 75	10 00	4,524 90	5,457 68	45,000 00
Birmingham, 2d	33 90	16 34	17 50											67 74		29 19	475 00	251 35	1 00	756 54	824 28	6,000 00
Birmingham, 3d	8 75	6 11	6 25											21 11	9 11	51 25	125 00	225 00	1 50	402 75	423 86	225 00
Birmingham, S. Side		82 58	153 00	96 00			15 80		197 05	144 95	157 30			846 68	110 12	159 54	1,800 00	2,687 60	5 00	4,652 14	5,498 82	45,000 00
‡Blossburg																	26 25	8 05	1 25	35 55	35 55	
*Brookside																						
Canaan		4 87	10 58											15 45	9 74	20 00	43 75	21 20	1 50	86 45	101 90	500 00
Central	15													15			50 00	6 10	1 50	57 60	57 75	800 00
Coalburg	7 50	3 50	4 00											15 00			120 00		1 00	121 00	136 00	1,000 00
Compton																15 00			1 15	16 15	16 15	
Concord	6 86													6 86			60 00		1 50	61 50	68 36	
Dolomite	1 00	50	55 25	7 00			5 00							68 75	15 70	22 80	117 50	22 84	1 25	164 39	233 14	600 00
Elyton	21 22	10 46	10 70	9 04			5 40			10 95	11 00	22 00	27 45	98 77	13 56	40 71	373 20	68 83	1 50	484 24	583 01	3,000 00
*Green Springs																						1,000 00
Irondale																			1 35	1 35	1 35	
*Johns																						
‖Kimball																			1 00	1 00	1 00	
*Mary Lee																						
Mount Olive	50	50	50											1 50			25 00	15 00	50	40 50	42 00	300 00
New Prospect	11 27	10 94	7 56	1 74										31 51		7 50	76 40	8 35	1 23	93 48	124 99	1,000 00
Oak Grove					3 00									3 00			10 00		1 00	11 00	14 00	
Pratt City	89 18	79 67	105 21	40 69		3 03	20 33						120 45	338 11	99 58		867 90	501 70	3 00	1,372 60	1,710 71	3,000 00
Pleasant Ridge	7 50	3 50	4 00											15 00			65 00	30 00	1 50	96 50	111 50	
*Rocky Ridge																						
Ruhama	36 85	18 09	18 82	11 55			143 11	10 00		23 70	24 00	48 00	10 00	334 12		50 00	1,089 88	623 03	5 00	1,767 91	2,102 03	14,000 00
Salem	10 12													10 12		5 00	30 00	3 65	1 30	39 95	50 07	500 00
⁂Springdale																			80	80	80	
Springville	5 20	3 00	3 20											11 40		9 00	40 00	25 00	1 00	75 00	86 40	1,500 00
Trussville	14 80		18 32	8 26			36 93			12 60			5 00	90 91	15 05	40 00	152 70	210 05	1 20	403 95	494 86	2,000 00
Union	7 00													7 00	5 59	10 00	112 70	13 50	3 00	139 20	146 20	100 00
Warrior	16 81	10 39	20 78	27 45									41 13	75 43	27 45		214 75	111 89	1 50	328 14	403 57	1,000 00
Williamsburg		1 00		1 00		50								2 50		5 00	60 00		1 50	66 50	69 00	
Woodlawn	38 10	12 60	19 00				18 50						280 33	88 20	34 50	60 00	556 15	439 87	4 30	1,060 32	1,148 52	8,000 00
Collections at Asso'n	9 50	9 00	9 00	12 07										39 57							39 57	
TOTAL	$ 518 91	$ 548 57	$ 658 43	$ 329 56	$ 3 00	$ 3 53	$ 392 42	$10 00	$ 197 05	$ 407 43	$ 247 55	$70 00		$ 3,386 45		$ 847 97	$ 10,125 72	$ 8,343 16	$64 33	$ 19,393 18	$ 22,779 63	$ 145,125 00

* Not represented. † Not represented. Many of the members of this Church have united with Springville Church. ‡ Organized July 30th, and admitted to membership at this session. ‖ Admitted to membership at this session; reported to Tuscaloosa Association. ⁂ Admitted to membership at this session.